



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT & TRADEMARK OFFICE

Application of: ARMSTONG. Docket No.: 5200-4407-03A
US Serial Number: 10/670731
CIP Filed: September 26, 2003
Title: Woodworking Method and Apparatus
Group Art Unit: 3723 Examiner: ROSE, Robert A.

Assistant Commissioner of Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

December 22, 2003

Sir:

Enclosed is an Information Disclosure Statement which is being filed in respect of the above identified continuation-in-part application (which is a continuation-in-part of US Patent Application No. 09/714262 filed November 17, 2000). Applicant herewith cites prior art which may be material to the patentability of the application and which is identified on the enclosed completed Form PTO/SB/08A.

Pursuant to the requirements set forth in 37 C.F.R. § 1.56 and § 1.97, and having regard to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. § 1.97(c) and 1.97(e)(1), the attention of the Examiner is invited to the documents listed on the attached Form PTO/SB/08. These documents are listed on Form PTO/SB/08 as a convenience to the Examiner and to the United States Patent Office.

It is to be noted that the filing of this information disclosure statement is not to be construed as a representation that a search has been made; or to be construed as an admission that the information cited in the statement is, or is considered to be, material to patentability as defined in §§ 1.56(b).

Applicant believes that, through submission of this Information Disclosure Statement, all attempts have been made in good faith to address all outstanding issues. Thus, entry of this Information Disclosure Statement, accompanying form PTO/SB/08 and prior art, into the records of this application, is earnestly solicited.

This Information Disclosure Statement is being filed in accordance the Rules and Regulations of the United States Patent and Trade Mark Office, as indicated below, namely:

- (X) A. Within one of the following time periods
 - (X) (1) Within three months of the filing date of a national application other than a continued prosecution application under §§ 1.53(d);
 - () (2) Within three months of the date of entry of the national stage as set forth in §§ 1.491 in an international application;
 - (X) (3) Before the mailing of a first Office action on the merits; or
 - () (4) Before the mailing of a first Office action after the filing of a request for continued examination under §§ 1.114.
- () B. After the period specified above, but before the mailing date of any of a final action under §§ 1.113, a notice of allowance under §§ 1.311, or an action that otherwise closes prosecution in the application, and it is accompanied by one of:
 - () (1) The statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e); or
 - () (2) The fee set forth in §§ 1.17(p).
- () C. After the period specified in part B. herein, but is being filed on or before payment of the issue fee and is accompanied by:
 - (1) The statement specified in 37 CFR 1.97(e); and
 - (2) The fee set forth in §§ 1.17(p).

Statement under 37 CFR 1.97(e), where applicable, and where indicated:

- () That each item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was first cited in any communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement; or
- () That no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application, and, to the knowledge of the person signing the certification after making reasonable inquiry, no item of information contained in the information disclosure statement was known to any individual designated in §§ 1.56(c) more than three months prior to the filing of the information disclosure statement.

Respectfully submitted

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'G. A. Gowan', written over a horizontal line.

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